

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Murmansk Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Sightings of Soviet Naval Vessels in or near Murmansk

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REFERENCES

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

The following reports describing Soviet naval vessels observed in and near Murmansk

Att.No.	Subject
1	Two cruisers, seven destroyers, three submarines, one unidentified naval vessel, a vessel similar to a merchant ship, cable-layer, a cargo vessel, carrying 12 MTBs; and a repair vessel
2	Five cruisers, construction of a television station in Murmansk.
3	Group of naval vessels, steering a course north-northeast in the direction of Kildin, consisting of one submarine, two cruisers, one destroyer, pendant sweepers, four MTBs. Also sighted in or near Murmansk were six destroyers, three cruisers, An old naval vessel was set afire in Murmansk; no one showed the slightest interest.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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[redacted] the following naval vessels were lying in the ROSTA shipyard.

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Two cruisers moored to the quay [redacted] Apparently similar, length 600 ft., 2 guns turrets on foredeck, imposing bridge structure with mast, tall, straight funnel, tripod mast, funnel, deckhouse, step down to quarter deck, 2 gun turrets, round stern.

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[redacted] appeared to be quite new, or newly overhauled, while the other cruiser was older.

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Lying on the outside [redacted] was a destroyer,

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Three destroyers [redacted] All similar, approx. 300 ft., medium forecastle head, bridge with large director, tripod mast, raked funnel, torpedo tubes, tripod mast, raked funnel, deckhouse and gun on quarter deck. These vessels left the shipyard [redacted]

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A submarine [redacted] was towed into the dock [redacted] She had patches of lead paint and there were signs of having been a long time at sea.

A vessel was lying at one quay which [redacted] was a naval vessel. [redacted] one funnel.

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[redacted] two similar submarines came into the shipyard [redacted]

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[redacted] left the shipyard [redacted]

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[redacted] three destroyers, [redacted] anchored near a tank boat that was lying loaded on the west side of the inlet halfway between ROSTA and MURMANSK. The destroyers were similar, length approx. 300 ft., flush deck, 2 guns on foredeck and 2 on quarter deck, mast aft of bridge

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[redacted]
raked funnel, torpedo tubes, long casing with a short mast and funnel.

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The tanker was approx. 15000 tons, [redacted]
The destroyers ran alongside the tanker and bunkered one after the other and left [redacted]

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[redacted] Three smaller tank boats, breech loaders, ran between the tanker and different vessels in the harbour.

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[redacted] a vessel similar to an ordinary merchantman with a powerful mast and boom aft came into the harbour. [redacted]

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[redacted] a cable vessel, [redacted]
passed in the direction of MURMANSK.

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[redacted] arrived a cargo vessel, [redacted]
with 12 MTB's three abreast and two deep on the foredeck and quarter deck.

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[redacted] a repair vessel anchored outside ROSTA.
[redacted] one funnel and a large crane on the quarter deck.

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1. NAVAL.

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[redacted] three cruisers were
lying in VAYENGA BAY. [redacted]

On the same date two cruisers were seen moored side
by side in the ROSTA shipyard. The outside vessel
had pendants 4. The other could not be seen.

2. TELEVISION.

The pilot volunteered the information that a television
station was under construction in MURMANSK and he
pointed out the mast, an ordinary lattice mast estimated
to be about 100 meters high.

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1. NAVAL.

[redacted] a group of naval vessels on line ahead passed due north of TOROS, steering a course NNE at a speed of 15 knots. A submarine [redacted] was lying stationary in the course-line about 2 n. miles further north. The vessels turned 90° to starboard and continued in the direction of KILDIN.

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Cruiser [redacted] led the group followed by cruiser [redacted] at a distance of 2 cable lengths. Third was a destroyer, [redacted] followed by minesweepers [redacted] followed again at some distance by 4 MTB's. [redacted]

Description of Cruiser [redacted] Length 200 meters, two triple turrets on the foredeck, slightly conical tower with a wide platform above the bridge, mast aft of the bridge, step from forecastle to maindeck, funnel, torpedo gun, mast, funnel, director, 2 triple turrets on the quarter deck.

Description of Cruiser [redacted]; Same length and similar except for the forecastle which was about 2/3 of the hulls length with a raised part amidships.

Description of Destroyer, [redacted] Length approx. 120 meters, flush deck, twin turret on the foredeck, large director above bridge, tripod mast, raked funnel, torpedo gun, tripod mast, raked funnel, torpedo gun, deckhouse, gun turret, transverse stern.

Description of minesweepers [redacted]: All similar, length 70 meters, long forecastle, one gun in a shield in front of bridge, mast aft of bridge, low funnel, gun in shield on quarter deck, davits in the stern.

[redacted] a patrol vessel, [redacted] passed south of TOROS ISLAND.

two destroyers were

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seen outside the Pilot station in TYUVA [redacted] were similar, [redacted] medium forecastle, two masts and two funnels.

A destroyer [redacted] was lying in VAYENGA BAY and further in the bay were 10 other destroyers moored to the quay.

[redacted] a cruiser passed PINAGORI Pt. on her way out of the inlet.
Description: [redacted] two triple turrets on the foredeck, tower above the bridge, mast aft, funnel, torpedo gun, a large launch, mast with boom, funnel, two triple turrets on the quarter deck.

[redacted] Cruiser [redacted] and another cruiser was seen at the quay at ROSTA. [redacted] hid the other, but they appeared to be similar and of the same type [redacted]

[redacted] a destroyer [redacted] was alongside the quay at the shipyard. [redacted] lay at anchor outside. They were similar, forecastle to aft of the bridge, 2 funnels and 2 masts. They were apparently moved at night because [redacted] they were both at anchor with a third destroyer [redacted]. This was a little smaller and had only one funnel.

An old naval vessel that was aground south of the old appatitt quay was apparently set on fire [redacted]

[redacted] destroyers and that she was set afire to the breaking up, She was burning fore and aft and no-one showed the slightest interest.